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GROUP 1700

Docket No.: 21581-210-US
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Yoshiki Nakagawa, et al.

Application No.: 09/622,931

Group Art Unit: 1713

Filed: November 13, 2000

Examiner: T. Zalukaeva

For: POLYMER AND CURABLE COMPOSITION

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 10, 2002.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-34 are now in the application.

Claims 1-3 and 15-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 06329720. JP 06329720 does not anticipate the above claims.

JP 06329720 describes "living polymerization", which means living anionic polymerization in the context of JP 06329720. This is clear from the description "living polymn. using a 1-6C linear or branched alkylolithium/tert. diamine initiator" (see the Abstract and also the description at [0019]-[0026]). There is no disclosure whatsoever of polymerization processes using other reagents.

A person skilled in the art would reasonably conclude that living polymerization using alkylolithium as in JP 06329720 is living anionic polymerization.

Hence, it is clear that JP 06329720 merely discloses living anionic polymerization.

On the other hand, claim 1 recites living radical polymerization.